



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749
(978) 562-2948

Paul Byrne, Chairman

Joseph Rodrigues

Marianne Iarossi

David Mercer

Emilie Schuler

Brandon Parker

Jason Weksner

Meeting Minutes June 6, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by chair Paul Byrne

Roll Call: Paul Byrne, Joe Rodrigues, Marianne Iarossi, Emilie Schuler, Brandon Parker, Jason Weksner

Staff: Pam Helinek (Conservation Agent)

Public Hearings

89 Fort Meadow Drive, Centennial Beach – RDA

Present: Steven Santos, Town of Hudson Director of Recreation

The Hudson Recreation Division would like to remove brush along the shoreline of Centennial Beach to allow access for non-motorized boating and fishing. Vegetation is between one and four feet tall and runs about 35 feet along the shoreline on the right-hand side in a narrow strip about two or three feet deep. There is an additional small patch on the left-hand side. The brush will be cut but not pulled or dug up so as not to disturb the bank of Fort Meadow Reservoir. Paul Byrne moved to issue a negative determination, second by Marianne Iarossi, vote 6-0-0

Administrative Business

Extension Requests – Lake Boon Drawdown, 190-0536, Lake Boon Herbicide Treatments, 190-0362

Present: Conray Wharff, Lake Boon Commission Chair

The applicant explained that there has been no substantive changes to either the drawdown activities or the herbicide treatments since the original OOCs were issued. Invasive vegetation has decreased in the lake so less herbicide has been required in recent years. The Stow Conservation Commission has recently extended both of their OOCs for three more years. Paul Byrne moved to extend both OOCs for three more years, second by Jason Weksner, vote 6-0-0.

Discussion – Lake Boon Dam

Present: Conray Wharff, Lake Boon Commission Chair

Conray Wharff reported that the Town of Stow has received a certificate of non-compliance with regards to the Lake Boon Dam. The Stow Highway Division is responsible for the necessary repairs.

Discussion – Follow up on drainage issues for Lake Boon

Pam Helinek has been unable to find any documentation on a reporting requirement in perpetuity for Charter Oaks Golf Club. The Commission asked her to continue investigating the issue through the Registry database. The Commission also asked for her to request DPW to clean out the catch basin by Temple Street and Proctor Street, and other catch basins in the area that are not functioning.

Minutes – Paul Byrne moved to accept the minutes from May 18, 2017. Second by Emilie Schuler, vote 6-0-0.

Discussion – Comments to EFSB and MEPA regarding Eversource project

Special Counsel edited the Commission's draft letter for the MEPA office. The Commission needs time to review and edit the new draft letter. The Commission would like to send comment letters to both the MEPA office and the EFSB but are concerned about appearing to pre-judge the project. Previous advice from Special Counsel was that the Commission should not comment before an NOI has been submitted. The Commission wants to be sure that the comment letters will not hurt their position when an NOI is filed. Paul Byrne moved to send letters to both the EFSB and MEPA contingent on confirmation by Counsel that it will not hurt the Commission's position to do so. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 6-0-0.

Pam Helinek will confirm with Special Counsel that it is advisable to send the letters. Commissioners will email their edits and she will compile them. Pam Helinek will also work on adapting the letter for submissions to the EFSB. If the Commission cannot come to a final consensus over the contents of the letters through email, they will hold a special meeting next week.

Adjournment

Paul Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Emilie Schuler, vote 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.